Interest certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the inited States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 15, 2004.

<u>PATENT</u>

Cathi H. Turner No wowler 15, loof
Date of Signature

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Dace et al. Group Art Unit: 1639

Serial No.: 09/879,279 Examiner: Epperson, Jon D.

Filed: June 12, 2001 Docket No.: 1392/18/2

Confirmation No.: 3524

For: IN VITRO CAPTURE OF NUCLEIC ACIDS VIA MODIFIED

**OLIGONUCLEOTIDES AND MAGNETIC BEADS** 

**AMENDMENT A** 

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action dated July 13, 2004, for which a shortened statutory period for reply is expired on October 13, 2004. A Petition for a 1-month Extension of Time is filed herewith extending the time for response up to and including November 13, 2004, which falls on a weekend and therefore automatically extends to November 15, 2004. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested in view of the following Amendments and Remarks.